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PAGE 01 STATE 114678 011737Z
 ORIGIN AF-01

RELEASED IN PART
 B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01
	ADS-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01
	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00
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DRAFTED BY: AF:PBUSHNELL:JMG

APPROVED BY: AF:PBUSHNELL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

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PAGE 02 STATE 114678 011737Z

TAGS: PREL, ET, TZ, UG, BY, CG, EG, FR, BE, SZ

SUBJECT: SOUNDING RPF KAGAME AGREES TO RESUME

TALKS AND RESPECT CEASEFIRE

B1

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

2. IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH DAS BUSHNELL ON APRIL 30, RPF COMMANDING GENERAL PAUL KAGAME SAID THE RPF WOULD SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO ARUSHA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TALKS BEGINNING MAY 2 AND WOULD RESPECT, AS HE CLAIMED TO HAVE DONE IN THE PAST, ANY CEASE-FIRE THAT CAN BE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
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NEGOTIATED. SUCH A CEASE-FIRE HE ARGUED, NOTHING TO STOP THE MASSACRES, HOWEVER, BECAUSE THOSE ARE CONTINUING IN AREAS OF THE COUNTRY IN WHICH THERE IS NO FIGHTING BETWEEN GOR AND RPF FORCES. KAGAME VEHEMENTLY DENIED THAT THE RPF HAD CLOSED THE BORDER WITH TANZANIA AND SAID UNARMED CIVILIANS IN THEIR TERRITORY -- HUTU OR TUTSI -- WOULD BE SAFE . HOWEVER, THE RPF WOULD CONTINUE TO FIGHT ANYONE WHO ENGAGED THEM, INCLUDING CIVILIANS WHO HAVE BEEN ARMED BY THE RWANDAN MILITARY.

B1

3. [REDACTED]
KAGAME EXPRESSED HIS "CONCERN AND BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT"

THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS FOCUSING ON THE FIGHTING BETWEEN THE TWO MILITARIES AND NOT ON THE MASSACRES THAT CONTINUE BEHIND GOR CONTROLLED LINES. FURTHERMORE, HE WENT ON, NO ONE APPEARS TO BE HOLDING THOSE WHO PLAN THE MASSACRES ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS. THE KILLING OF CIVILIANS IS DIRECTED, HE SAID, AND AN EFFECTIVE CONDEMNATION OF THE "CRIMINALS" WAS

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PAGE 03 STATE 114678 011737Z
NEEDED TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

4. KAGAME BRISTLED AT REPORTS THAT THE RPF HAD CLOSED THE BORDER WITH TANZANIA AND VEHEMENTLY DENIED THEY HAD EVER DONE SO. IN POINT OF FACT, HE SAID, IT WAS THE GOT WHO HAD PREVENTED THE INITIAL GROUP OF TUTSI REFUGEES FROM CROSSING. IT WAS ONLY WHEN THE FLOOD OF HUTUS BEGAN THAT THE BORDER WAS OPENED HE SAID HE INTENDED TO PUT THE BORDER QUESTION TO THE GOT AT ARUSHA AND WOULD ALSO ASK WHY TUTSI SUPPORTERS IN TANZANIA WERE BEING ARRESTED.

5. ASKED IF THE RPF WOULD RESPECT A CEASE-FIRE KAG ME SAID THAT, OF COURSE, THEY WOULD . THEY HAD INITIATED SEVERAL CEASE-FIRES, EACH BROKEN BY THE GOR. "NOW HE SAID, EVERYBODY IS AT A LOSS AS TO WHAT TO DO.

6. BUSHNELL TOLD KAGAME THAT HE WAS WRONG IN THINKING THAT THE WORLD WAS IGNORING THE MASSACRES AND REFERRED TO TWO PUBLIC STATEMENTS PRESIDENT CLINTON HAD MADE, ONE CALLING ON SPECIFICALLY NAMED GOR LEADERS TO STOP THE KILLING. SHE STRESSED THAT ONLY AN AGREEMENT BY BOTH SIDES TO STOP THE VIOLENCE COULD END THE CATASTROPHE RWANDANS NOW FIND THEMSELVES IN. IT WAS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT, SHE SAID, THAT THE RPF NOT DETER ANY MOVEMENT

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OF REFUGEES AND THAT THEY AVOID AT ALL ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
TEMPTATION OF REPRISALS. SHE TOLD KAGAME SHE WAS URGING
THE GOR TO A CEASE-FIRE AND ASKED KAGAME TO CALL HER BACK
ON MAY 1. HE AGREED TO DO SO.

7. COMMENT. KAGAME'S CALL CAME IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
TO CONTACT BUSHNELL PUT FORWARD BY HER THROUGH A THIRD
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PAGE 04 STATE 114678 011737Z
PARTY KAGAME WENT TO CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO TRACK HER
DOWN LATE ON A SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND SEEMED ANXIOUS TO
TELL HIS STORY. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
END COMMENT.

8. BUJUMBURA MINIMIZED CONSIDERED . TALBOTT

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